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Transmitted Via Email

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SUBJECT: PER-SAFETY AND HEALTH

Purpose. To provide field staff with information regarding fireworks safety, as submitted by Michael Vasquez, Area 4 Safety Chair.

Expiration Date. September 30, 2006.

As the Fourth of July draws near, the National Council on Fireworks Safety reminds us that taking a few moments to review these firework safety tips will help ensure a safe and enjoyable holiday. Injuries can be cut further by following a few simple guidelines and one in particular: **Only Use Legal Fireworks.** The Consumer Products Safety Commission requires that legal fireworks display the name of the item, the manufacturer and/or distributor's name, an easy-to-read cautionary label, and instructions for proper use. Illegal fireworks like M80's, cherry bombs, and silver salutes have been federally banned since 1966 due to large amounts of explosive contained in the device. In addition to current ordinances governing fireworks, it is recommended that you:

- Always read and follow the label directions
- Have an adult supervise all firework activity
- Buy from reliable sources
- Ignite outdoors, away from buildings and vehicles
- Keep a bucket of water handy
- Never experiment or attempt to make your own fireworks
- Light fireworks one at a time
- Never re-ignite malfunctioning fireworks
- Store fireworks in a dry, cool place
- Never throw fireworks at another person
- Never shoot fireworks in metal or glass containers
- No part of the shooter's body should be over the fireworks
- The shooter should always be wearing eye protection

It is expected that the use of fireworks will rise dramatically as Americans celebrate the national holiday with a renewed sense of pride and patriotism. Celebrate with pride, celebrate safely. Have a Happy Fourth of July weekend!

WILLIAM HUNT
State Conservationist

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